

Message Text

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72

ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 /017 W
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R 021356Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3346

INFO USIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

UNCLAS BUDAPEST 1615

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL, HU

SUBJ: CU/ARTS: CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS:

MCLAIN FAMILY BAND

1. WITHOUT DOUBT THE MCLAIN FAMILY BAND IS THE MOST
SENSTATIONAL, ATTRACTIVE AND EFFECTIVE CULTURAL PRESENTATION
WHICH COULD POSSIBLY BE FIELDDED BY THE USG IN SUPPORT OF
ITS GOAL OF PROJECTING THE BEST AND MOST FAVORABLE IMAGE

OF THE U.S. TO ANY AUDIENCE, IN ANY COUNTRY, ANYWHERE.

2. MUSICALLY THE MCLAINS ARE FIRST RATE. PERSONALLY
THEY RADIATE ENTHUSIASM, SIMPLICITY, LOVE OF PEOPLE,
LOVE OF MUSIC. THEIR ART FORM IS LITTLE KNOWN, BUT IT
TELLS A LOT OF A SIDE OF AMERICAN WHICH USUALLY
LITTLE KNOWN. THEY HAVE UNIVERSAL APPEAL AND CAN CHARM
ANY AUDIENCE INTO FOOT-STOMPING, THUNDEROUS APPLAUSE.
THEY ARE SIMPLY THE BEST THERE IS.

3. IN HUNGARY THEY PROVIDED THE POST ITS FIRST OPPOR-
TUNITY FOR PROGRAMMING OUTSIDE OF BUDAPEST. UNDER THE
SPONSORSHIP OF THE HKKZYDMAN CONCERT BUREAU THEY GAVE
TWO PERFORMANCES AT THE PECS NATIONAL THEATER AND
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THREE MORE AT THE HOUSES OF CULTURE IN BAJA AND OZD
RESPECTIVELY. A SIXTH CONCERT PLANNED FOR THE STADIUM

IN EGER WAS UNFORTUNATELY RAINED OUT. THEY ALSO GAVE

A CONCERT AT THE PAO RESIDENCE.

4. A SERIES OF PROVINCIAL AUDIENCES TOTLING APPROXIMATELY 4500 PEOPLE SAW A LIVE AMERICAN CULTURAL PERFORMANCE, PROBABLY FOR THE FIRST TIME EVER FOR THE VAST MAJORITY OF THEM. THEY COULD NOT HAVE BEEN MORE ENTHUSIASTIC. AND, THEY CERTAINLY NEVER BEFORE HEARD AN ANNOUNCER PUBLICLY THANK THE AMERICAN EMBASSY FOR HAVING BROUGHT THE GROUP TO HUNGARY.

5. CU/ARTS COULD NEVER FIND ANY BETTER USE OF ITS FUNDS THAN KEEPING THIS GROUP ON THE ROAD EVERY YEAR FOR AS LONG AS POSSIBLE TO AS MANY COUNTRIES AS POSSIBLE, AND PARTICULARLY IN 1976. THIS POST ANTICIPATES PROGRAM THEM FOR THREE WEEKS NEXT YEAR.
MCAULIFFE

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